

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 established a national system of wild and scenic rivers and established a review procedure for projects to ensure that the quality of the designated rivers is maintained. If a project is proposed along a river that is designated in the national wild and scenic rivers system, the recipient must make a determination whether the project could impact the river and may need to consult with the river managing agent to make this determination. Alaska has the country's second highest number of designated rivers. Recipients must consider Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers, Study Wild and Scenic Rivers and rivers on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory.

Threshold for Review: Water Resource Projects. A Water Resource Project is a federally assisted project that could affect the free-flowing condition of a Wild and Scenic River. Examples include dams, water diversion projects, bridges, roadway construction, boat ramps, and activities that require a Section 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Basic Steps to Obtain Concurrence:

1. Review Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers (<http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/map.php>); Study Wild and Scenic Rivers (<http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/study.php>) and rivers on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory (<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rca/nri/>) **to determine whether any listed rivers are in proximity to your project.**

2. **If the proposed site/project is not located within proximity to a listed river:** Prepare a determination of "no effect" and include it and documentation supporting the determination in the ERR file.

3. **If the proposed site/project is located within proximity of a listed river,** please follow the detailed compliance steps in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Checklist.

For CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION determinations: If mitigation action is required, the Tribe must complete and post a NOI/RROF and submit an RROF to the AONAP.

Additional information regarding the National Park Service Wild and Scenic Rivers program can be found on the Internet at the following address:

NPS Wild and Scenic Rivers Program: <http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/>